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## REPORT

OF THE

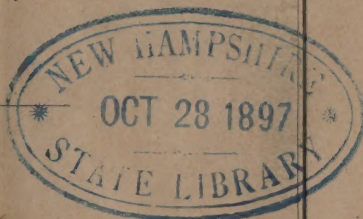
## FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

OF THE

## TOWN OF GRAFTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

FEBRUARY 25, 1860.



CONCORD:  
LEWIS L. MOWER, PRINTER.  
1860.



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## ACCOUNTS.

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We, your Auditors, for the town of Grafton, for the year ending February 25th, 1860, having examined the prudential affairs of said town, now ask leave to submit the following report:

*We find the outstanding claims against the town to be as follows:*

Note due Cyrus Adams, dated Jan. 13, 1859,	\$38.54
“ “ “ “ March 8, 1855,	1374.25
“ “ “ “ “ 8, 1856,	106.64
“ “ “ “ Feb. 27, 1858,	530.67
“ due Dorothy Prescott, dated June 25, 1859,	884.00
“ “ Nathan Farnham “ “ 29, 1859,	124.07
“ “ John Barney, “ April 8, 1859,	579.60
“ “ Ruth Cole, “ April 26, 1856,	201.98
“ “ Benjamin Martin, “ July 5, 1856,	169.05
“ “ Candis Martin, “ Oct. 22, 1857,	224.72
“ “ Tilton Nichols, “ Oct. 22, 1857,	112.36
“ “ Martin Davis, “ Dec. 15, 1857,	112.36
“ “ Martin Davis, “ Jan. 11, 1858,	157.30
“ “ Henry D. Stevens, “ Sept. 20, 1857,	112.36
Estimated as due to Pike & Barnard,	14.00
Due H. D. Barney for use of Poor Farm and services,	100.00
Due C. Patten for the support of E. Spooner,	20.00
Due C. Patten for the support of Smith Roberts and wife,	15.00
Estimated as due H. Barney and others,	80.00

Which several sums added amount to the sum of \$4956.90

*We find the disbursements of money by the Selectmen the past year to be as follows:*

Paid Pike & Barnard on account,	\$50.00
“ J. A. Merriam for Stationery,	7.37
“ Expense to Concord,	2.50
“ Hale & Martin for Stationery,	.85
“ Josiah Robinson for Bridge Plank,	.50
“ Sarah Chase for the support of E. Chase,	10.00
“ William Flagg for telegraphic dispatch,	.25
“ J. C. Conner for Liquor,	126.36

Paid Benjamin Williams on notes for Aaron Strowbridge,	\$403.83
“ Calvin Gage on note,	213.90
“ Welcom Aldrich on note,	170.67
“ Welcom Aldrich for rent, rent of farm for the poor and services on the same for the year 1858,	225.00
“ James Buffum for the support of Smith Robberts and wife,	15.00
“ William Richardson for butter used on poor farm,	1.00
“ Richard Cole for two tons of hay used on the poor farm,	20.00
“ G. W. Dean damages on highway,	5.00
“ J. W. Patterson tax for teacher's institute,	10.68
“ Expense to Lebanon on a pauper case,	1.70
“ 11 lbs. Sole Leather used for the poor,	3.13
“ Town of Columbia for support of paupers,	31.11
“ Expense to Columbia on pauper case,	17.15
“ Horace Barney, 2d, for examining records at Portsmouth in a pauper case.	3.00
“ C. Patten for the support of the Spooner family,	30.00
“ Expense to Canaan,	.75
“ For 1 Quintle of Fish and freight on the same,	2.17
“ Dr. Manahan for doctoring the poor,	1.00
“ Sarah Chase for the support of E. Chase,	10.00
“ Expense to Canaan,	1.25
“ Pike & Barnard on account,	22.41
“ Expense to Sanbornton Bank,	2.65
“ For one pig for the poor farm,	2.00
“ Expense to Canaan,	1.25
“ Jeremiah Whitney in full on note,	784.41
“ Benjamin Martin on note,	108.38
“ David Wood for the support of Asa Wood and wife,	37.50
“ Dr. Morgan, for doctoring the poor,	19.00
“ Aaron Aldrich, for road damages,	150.00
“ Isaac Bullock, for taking a Deposition,	1.00
“ Sarah Chase for support of E. Chase,	36.00
“ Cyrus Hobs, for building new highway,	100.00
“ G. W. Murray, on account,	20.00
“ J. T. Severence, for mending shoes for the poor,	.58
“ Expense to Dorchester, to examine record in pauper case,	2.25
“ W. F. Langley, for repairing highway,	1.12



Paid O. H. Perkins, for repairing highway,	\$0.62
" O. H. Perkins, for one pair shoes for the poor,	1.75
" O. H. Perkins, for shoemaking for the poor,	2.00
" C. J. Conner, for Liquor,	54.09
" J. C. Chapman, for support of Romanso Staples,	15.00
" Hale & Martin, for Stationery,	1.50
" George Fogg, for one yoke oxen for the poor farm,	90.00
" Expense to Orange to examine records in a pauper case,	1.75
" Doughten & Aldrich, for four yearlings for the poor farm,	39.50
" O. H. Perkins, for work on highway,	1.00
" W. F. Langley, for work on highway,	1.00
" George Aldrich, on note,	272.78
" George Aldrich, for plank used on the high- way,	1.79
" Town of Claremont, for the support of the Still family,	18.20
" Expense to Claremont, in a pauper case,	4.75
" Hiram Trewell, for work on highway, and bridge plank,	8.50
" Byron Fellows, for meat for the poor,	1.70
" For cutting and making one pair pants for the poor,	.60
" J. R. Dean, for collecting a school house tax,	1.00
" Curtis Langley, for one yearling, for the poor farm,	10.50
" O. H. Perkins, shoemaking for the poor,	.50
" E. Story, for coffin and robe for Daniel Cas- well,	5.50
" Richard Cole, for getting the coffin and robe for Daniel Caswell,	1.00
" Albert and Hiram Hale, for digging grave for Daniel Caswell,	1.00
" John Burden, attending funeral,	2.00
" Expense to Canaan and Orange, in a pauper case,	1.25
" Expense to Andover, to get counsel in a pau- per case,	.85
" Expense to Meredith, to examine records in a pauper case,	4.75
" Erastus Blanchard for nursing D. Caswell,	1.25
" J. B. Sargent, for repairing highway,	8.41
" W. T. Norris, for legal service,	5.83

Paid Warde & Humphrey, for one pair hand cuffs,	\$2.00
“ E. Haskins, for blacksmith work for poor farm, and for one brass kettle,	5.35
“ Hale & Martin, for goods furnished the poor,	113.49
“ Expense to Groton, to examine records in a pauper case,	2.50
“ F. Caswell, for repairing guide post,	1.00
“ Alvah Stevens, for repairing highway,	8.50
“ Wyman Stevens, for going to Sutton for a doctor for a pauper,	3.15
“ Expense to Sanbornton, to examine records in a pauper case,	2.50
“ Dr. Beersin, full for doctoring E. Chase for the years 1857, 8 and 9,	13.00
“ J. R. Smiley, for doctoring town's poor,	9.75
“ J. Whitney, in full for percentage on collecting taxes, for the years 1857 and 8,	112.11
“ Butterfield & Shirley, for legal advice,	3.00
“ G. W. Rollins, for goods furnished the poor,	26.33
“ Aaron Aldrich, on note,	292.45
“ Hosea D. Barney, in part for rent of farm for the poor, and services on the same,	75.00
“ Peter Smith, for doctoring cow on the poor farm,	.50
“ Calvin Heath, for one butter tub for the poor farm,	.30
“ H. D. Barney, for sundry bills paid out on poor farm,	31.57
“ Josiah R. Dean, for postage and other incidental charges,	2.89
“ G. W. Rollins, for stamps and envelopes,	.20
“ Morrill & Silsby, for blanks,	2.05
“ Eliphalet Davis, road damages,	.10
“ Expense to Andover in the Joanna Peck case,	.75
“ T. B. Sargent, for error on settlement,	2.92

Which several sums amount to the sum of \$3925.08

*We find also, that the board of Selectmen for 1858, disbursed money as follows, after their settlement with your auditors and before their official term expired :*

Paid expense to Canaan, in a pauper case,	\$0.50
“ Benjamin F. Morse, for lumber and labor on highway,	2.50
“ O. H. Perkins, for horse and sleigh to Canaan in a pauper case,	1.00



Paid O. H. Perkins, for services as Treasurer for the year 1858.	\$4.00
" John Burden for services as Superintending School Committee,	.75
" G. W. Rollins, for printing town report and expenses,	12.00
" O. H. Perkins, in full or services as Selectman,	3.50
" W. S. Langley, in full for services as Selectman,	3.00
" G. W. Rollins, for one bbl. flour for the poor farm,	7.50
" Welcom Aldrich, on notes,	93.19

Which being added, amount to the sum of \$127.94

*We find the orders issued upon the Treasury for said year, to be as follows, and for the following purposes :*

For Schools,	\$538.47
An order to James Buffum, for labor on highway,	2.84
" John Barney, for interest on note,	20.20
" James Buffum, for the support of Smith Robberts and Wife in 1858,	5.00
" H. D. Barney, for hay used on poor farm,	6.10
" Arad S. Barney, for hay used on poor farm,	6.10
" J. R. Dean, for lumber and railing a piece of highway,	22.65
" H. Atwell, for labor on the highway,	5.00
" H. D. Barney, for sundries furnished on the poor farm,	25.00
" Arad S. Barney, for pork used on the poor farm,	9.00
" Horace Barney, 2d, for goods furnished on the poor farm,	20.92
" John Riddle, for labor on highway,	6.15
" N. & J. Riddle, for labor on highway,	10.00
" J. P. Mason, for plank and labor on the highway,	10.28
" V. W. Powell, for labor on the highway,	4.62
" Jonathan Sanborn, for labor on highway,	5.25
" Daniel Straw, for damages awarded in laying out highway,	
" J. Sanders, 2d, bridge plank,	2.51
" Constant Gile, for lumber and labor on the highway,	1.02
" Peter Kimball, for labor on the highway,	3.50

Order for Dr. Taplen, for his services in attending Romanso Staples,	\$83.00
“ James W. Kilton, for grain furnished on the poor farm,	35.53
“ Joseph C. Chapman, for the support of Romanso Staples,	5.59
“ Joel Blackman, for labor on the highway,	.58
“ Joel Blackman, for wood and provision furnished Emeline Sleeper,	4.90
“ J. R. Dean, for bridge plank,	4.25
“ Richard Cole, for horse hire on poor farm,	1.53
“ Richard Cole, for one watering trough,	3.00
“ Martin & Hale, for goods furnished Emeline Sleeper,	10.19
“ Horace Barney, for overtaxing and for sawing wood for the town house,	2.54
Allowed Josiah R. Dean, for receipts presented where non-resident highway taxes have been expended in labor,	5.50
Allowed Erastus Blanchard, for the support of Webster Hall, in 1856,	10.00
Allowed Hial Barney, for an abatement of taxes for 1858,	2.55
Allowed Hiram Trewell, for a school-house tax,	2.08
“ Jesse Cass, in the Joanna Peck case,	1.60
Which several sums added amount to the sum of ———	\$892.08

*We also find the Selectmen for the year 1858, after their settlement with your Auditors and before the expiration of their official term, issued Orders as follows :*

Orders in favor of Jarvis Barney, for labor on the highway,	\$7.00
“ Hiram Barney, for labor on the highway,	2.50
“ F. J. Hoyt, for labor on the highway,	5.00
“ Fayette Tinkham, for overtaxing non-resident land,	2.12
“ J. Caswell, for breaking highway,	12.40
“ George Bucklin, for breaking plough on the highway,	6.75
“ J. Pierce, for work and plank on the highway,	7.50
“ Martin Powers, an abatement of taxes on two sheep in 1858,	.02
“ Stephen George, for painting guide post,	.50

Order David Follansbee, for labor on the highway,	\$4.19	
“ C. P. Holmes, for an abatement on taxes for the year 1858,	.79	
“ A. R. Kimball, for carrying a pauper to the poor farm,	1.00	
“ Williard Sayles, for an abatement on his taxes in 1858,	6.00	
“ Peter Smith, for labor on the highway,	8.75	
“ Isaac Bullock, for lumber and work on the highway,	14.50	
“ James R. Smiley, for doctoring the town's poor in 1858,	8.25	
“ Sargent Heath, for overtaxing non-resident lands,	.51	
“ J. Pierce, for work and plank on the highway,	7.50	
And it is the opinion of your Auditors, that this is the second time this bill has been paid.		
“ David Bucklin, for land damages in building the Tucker road,	3.00	
“ W. P. Messer, for labor on the highway,	1.00	
Which several sums amount to the sum of		\$99.28

*We also find the several Town Officers bills for the past year to be as follows :*

W. F. Langley, 1st Selectman,	\$62.50	
A. Stevens, 2d Selectman,	44.50	
C. Hale, 3d Selectman,	37.00	
J. W. Kilton, Town Clerk,	7.00	
J. W. Kilton, Liquor Agent,	50.00	
S. R. Foss, Superintending School Committee,	33.50	
J. R. Dean, Collector of taxes,	50.00	
H. Barney, 2d, Town Treasurer,	4.00	
G. W. Rollins, Auditor,	6.00	
C. Adams, Auditor,	1.25	
Jesse Cass, Auditor,	2.50	
Which being added amounts to the sum of		\$298.25

*We also find the following persons have had their taxes for the year 1859, abated as follows :*

John Caswell,	\$1.63
Charles Clark,	2.26
Watson Dean,	4.49



John C. Durgin, by request,	\$7.92
Williard Ford,	2.45
Alpheus George,	4.49
Francis Heath,	3.12
John Jeffers,	2.45
Daniel Martin,	2.45
John Martin, by request,	9.32
Andrew Nudd,	2.45
Henry Sanborn,	2.45
J. T. Severance,	.26
Williard Sayles, overtaxed,	3.00
David Sanborn,	7.18
John O. Barnes,	2.45
Peter Smith,	3.40
John Taylor,	5.00
Prescott Lorraine,	1.88
Jarvis Barney, over taxed,	2.00
John Stevens, overtaxed,	2.45
Silas Quint, overtaxed,	1.00
Which added amount to the sum of	<hr/> \$74.10

*We find the State and County taxes the past year to be*

State,	\$186.90
County,	287.79
Which added amount to	<hr/> \$474.69

*We find the amount of taxes assessed in said town for the year  
1859, including Town, State, County, School and for  
Teacher's institute, with swellage on the same,  
to be as follows :*

Town tax,	\$2225.00
School "	544.36
State "	186.90
County "	287.79
Swellage on taxes,	136.72
	<hr/> 3380.77

We also find in the Selectmen's hands at the  
settlement with your Auditors for the  
year 1858. \$2323.01

*We also find the money received by the Selectmen for the past year  
to be as follows :*

Received from Welcom Aldrich, for 1 2-5 tons hay,	\$18.00
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Received Dorothy Prescott, for which the towns note is given,	\$850.00
“ Welcom Aldrich, for one sheep,	2.50
“ Of the County not estimated in the report for 1858,	17.00
“ Cyrus Hale, for old gold, formerly belonging to a pauper,	.25
“ Jesse Waldron, for boot between cows,	1.00
“ J. B. Sargent, for stock sold from the poor farm,	193.09
“ Hale & Martin, for calf skin, one cow hide, one pair socks and the knitting of seven pairs of socks,	6.15
“ H. D. Barney, for labor from the poor farm,	9.50
“ H. D. Barney, for sundries sold from the poor farm,	29.94
“ James W. Kilton, for the sale of liquor,	107.10
“ F. J. Hoyt, for oats from the poor farm,	6.75
Which sums amount to the sum of	1241.28

*We find claims in favor of the Town as follows :*

Due from Jeremiah Whitney,	\$20.00
“ from the County,	159.22
“ tax from the N. R. R.,	90.00
“ from Stephen George, on note dated May 21, 1859,	21.59
“ from the town of Dorchester,	124.00
Which sums added amount to the sum of	414.81

*We also find the property now in the hands of the town as follows :*

Liquor and fixtures in the hands of J. W. Kilton,	\$122.34
One ton of hay in the barn of Moses Bucklin,	5.00
Stock, provisions and other fixtures, including furniture and farming tools upon the poor farm, as appraised in 1859,	497.31
Which sums being added amount to the sum of	624.65

#### RECAPITULATION.

Notes and outstanding claims against the town, \$4956.90

Money paid out by the selectmen, for the year 1859,	\$3925.08
Money paid by the old board of selectmen for the year 1858,	127.94
Orders issued by the selectmen for the year 1859,	892.08
Orders issued by the old board of selectmen for the year 1858,	99.28
Town officers' bills for the year 1859,	298.25
Abatement of taxes for the year 1859,	74.10
State and County taxes,	474.69
Stock, provisions, farming tools and furniture upon the poor farm, as appraised last year,	497.31
Allowed to Jeremiah Whitney, Jr., by the selectmen on final settlement,	179.85
Which several sums being added amount to	————11525.48

Taxes assessed for the year 1859,	\$3380.77
Available means in the hands of the selectmen for the year 1858, at the settlement with auditors,	2323.01
Money received by the present board of Selec'n, exclusive of the amount in the hands of their predecessors.	1241.28
Claims in favor of the town, exclusive of 20,00 due from J. Whitney, Jr. and a note of 21,59, signed by Stephen George, both included in the 2323,01 mentioned above,	373.22
Stock, provisions, farming tools and furniture upon the poor farm as appraised this year,	416.89
Liquor in the hands of James W. Kilton,	122.34
One ton of hay now in the barn of Moses Bucklin,	5.00
Which sums added, amount to the sum of	————7862.51
Which last sum taken from the outstanding claims and moneys expended leaves a balance against said town, exclusive of the property on the poor farm, of	————\$3662.97

We also find at this time of settlement, that there is in the hands of the town treasurer,	\$848.90
In the hands of the selectmen,	221.23
Total in both in ready cash,	————1069.13
Which sum is included in the sum total of available means of said town for the year 1859, of	\$7862.51



*The cost of the poor for the past year, will be shown by the following statement:*

We find the amount of the stock, provisions, &c., upon the poor farm, as appraised last year, to be	\$440.72
Furniture and farming tools,	56.51
Sundry bills paid for the support of the poor the past year of 1859,	849.93
Due H. D. Barney, for rent and services on the farm,	100.00
Which sums added, amount to the sum of	1447.13
We find that stock and other property has been sold to the amount of	\$284.18
Stock and provisions upon the farm, as appraised this year,	416.88
Furniture and farming tools,	56.51
Due from the county,	159.22
Which sums added amount to the sum of	\$916.80
Which sum taken from the preceeding sum, leaves the expense of the poor, for the past year to be	\$530.30
We also find that there has been paid out for the support of the poor not on the farm, the sum of	295.21
Which sum is included in the sum total of sun- dry bills, paid for the poor as above, viz.,	\$849.93.
Of this sum, \$124.00, is claimed by your Select- men, from the town of Dorchester, which if realized, although very much doubted by your Auditors, would leave the sum ex- pended off of the farm to be,	\$171.21

*Schedule of Property on the Poor Farm, as appraised, Feb. the  
23d, 1860.*

1 yoke of Oxen,	\$100.00
2 Cows,	45.00
1 Cow,	15 00
5 Heifers 2 years old,	70.00
1 Shoate,	12.00
1 Ton of Hay in Bucklin's barn,	5.00
7 Hens,	2.34
2 bushels corn,	2.25
3-4 bushels Indian Meal,	.75
2 1-4 bushels Rye Meal,	2.25
47 lbs. Lard,	6.58
80 lbs. Pork,	8.80

69 lbs. Ham,	\$8.28
140 lbs. Beef,	9.80
1-2 Bbl. Flour,	3.50
2 lbs. Saleratus,	.14
5 lbs. Tea,	2.50
4 1-2 lbs. Coffee,	.77
1-4 lb. Allspice,	.04
3 lbs. Sugar,	.27
4 lbs. Tobacco,	1.10
3-4 lb. Stocking yarn,	.42
5 lbs. Rolls,	2.50
40 lbs. Dried Pumpkin,	.40
17 lbs. Tallow,	2.04
3 lbs. Dried Apples,	.30
80 lbs. Butter,	13.33
1 1-2 oz. Nutmegs,	.08
5 13-16 lbs. Sole Leather,	1.50
6 lbs. Fish,	.30
1 lb. Snuff,	.25
1-4 lb. Ginger,	.02
1 lb. Rice,	.06
1 lb. Pepper,	.12
1-4 Bag Salt,	.07
1 Pair Feeting,	.25
10 Gallons Molasses,	3.80
1 bushel Salt,	.45
1 1-4 bushel Beans,	1.75
75 bushels Potatoes,	15.00
10 bushels Wheat,	17.00
1 bushel Apples,	.42
12 Gallons soap,	2.00
1 Pair shoes,	1.00
1-2 bush Peas,	.67
1 Ball wicking,	.05
3 1-2 Cakes shaving soap,	.17
1-2 lb. Starch,	.06
Furniture and farming tools,	56.51

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\$416.89

We find by examination that the Literary fund on hand at the settlement with the auditors for the year 1859, together with what has been drawn from the State the past year, has all been expended in the different school districts for schooling.

Your Auditors would merely mention for the information of the incoming board of Selectmen, that there is now owned in town twelve shares in the Concord Railroad, and that there has been

no tax received, or if there has, it has not been brought to the notice of your Auditors, for the four years last past which should be punctually attended to, as the sum may yet possibly be recovered.

We also find that the Liquor Agent for the town, the past year, has sold thirty barrels of Liquor, and made a profit of \$57.10 for the town. Whether it has been sold as high as it was last year, when 31 barrels were sold, and a profit made for the town, of \$161.00 we are not able to say, but as we have an entire confidence in the veracity of the agent, we should be led to conclude that there had not been so great a profit put upon the liquors.

In conclusion, your Auditors would say that they were very happy to find the books in good order, and all that came to our notice well vouched for, and think your Selectmen have, in our opinion, endeavored to discharge the duties devolving upon them with fidelity to their constituents. Nevertheless, we can but recommend to our townsmen in future, the importance of choosing in each board of Selectmen, two of their older and more experienced men, and with them school constantly one of their younger men; we think that the result of such a course would undoubtedly be an improvement in our future Boards of Selectmen.

All of which we respectfully submit.

G. W. ROLLINS,	} <i>Auditors for</i>
CYRUS ADAMS,	
JESSE CASS,	
	<i>the town</i>
	<i>of Grafton.</i>

Grafton, Feb. 25th, 1860.



# REPORT

## OF THE

### Superintending School Committee.

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#### DISTRICT NO. 1.

The amount of money in this district, being small, it was thought advisable to have but one term. This was taught by E. L. Brown, of Orange. The mode of instruction was thorough, and the scholars as a whole made good improvement. There were circumstances which at one time threatened to injure, but through the energy of the teacher these were overcome, and the school closed with credit both to teacher and scholar.

#### DISTRICT NO. 2.

The Summer Term was taught by Miss Georgianna A. Powers, of Grafton. This term commenced with the prospect of a good school, but my second visit found a decided lack of order, and the interest of the school much impaired; the manner of instruction very imperfect.

The Fall Term was taught by Ann E. Martin, of Grafton. The recitations showed that thorough instruction had been given, and good progress made.

#### DISTRICT NO. 3.

Summer Term taught by Miss Francis R. Currier, of Enfield. In this school were taught some of the higher branches. There was a good degree of interest, both on the part of teacher and scholar.

Winter Term taught by S. R. Foss, of Grafton. In this school the interest on the part of the scholars was truly commendable.

#### DISTRICT NO. 4.

Summer Term taught by Mrs. E. B. Hoyt, of Concord. This was one of our best schools, and reflected much credit on the part of the teacher for her untiring interest for her pupils. The elements of the English language were thoroughly taught.

Winter Term taught by the same teacher. The term commenced with the prospect of a good school, and no effort was wanting on the part of the teacher; but some of the larger scholars thinking they could govern themselves, the interest of the school was much impaired.

## DISTRICT NO. 5.

Summer Term taught by Miss Sarah E. J. Currier, of Wilmot. This school gave general satisfaction. It being large and mostly small scholars, it required energy, perseverance, and patience on the part of the teacher.

Winter Term taught by Miss Adalaide Smiley, of Grafton. The recitations evinced thorough instruction. But the *decrease* of parental authority, and the *increase* of Young America (which was very perceptible,) made the labors of the teacher both arduous and perplexing.

## DISTRICT NO. 6.

Summer Term taught by Miss Mary E. Martin. The examination at the close of the school, showed that an effort on the part of the teachers, had not been wanting; but there is a decided lack of interest on the part of the parents; the attendance was very irregular, consequently the progress was in proportion. There has been some repairs on the house the past year which has added much to its warmth, but other improvements are needed.

Winter Term taught by Orra H. Gile, of Grafton. Mr. Gile is a thorough teacher, and the recitations showed that good progress had been made. The attendance, I am happy to say, was more regular.

## DISTRICT NO. 7.

No schools.

## DISTRICT NO. 8.

This district had but one term. This was taught by Miss Matilda J. Pillsbury, of Grantham. They have no school house. The school was kept in a room fitted for the purpose. The pupils made good proficiency in the branches taught.

## DISTRICT NO. 9.

Summer Term taught by Miss Ellen Riddle, of Grafton. In this school there was good order, but a perceptible want of interest on the part of the pupils. A change of text books is needed, especially Geographies.

Winter Term taught by J. G. Currier, of Wilmot. School now in session.

## DISTRICT NO. 10.

This district has a house which is excelled by none in town for capacity and convenience. Summer Term, taught by Miss Mary E. Baldwin, of Grafton. This school was visited but once, closing without notice being given, the merits of which, I am unable to speak.

Winter Term taught by Hial Barney, of Grafton. It would be

gratifying, if I could speak of all schools, with that degree of commendation with which I can of this. Energy and perseverance on the part of a teacher, and studiousness on that of scholars, are sure to be crowned with success.

#### DISTRICT NO. 11.

Summer Term taught by Miss Salina Fellows, of Grafton. This school was visited but once, closing without notice to your committee. Of its merits or demerits, I am unable to speak.

Winter Term taught by Foster D. Edwards, of Enfield. There was no lack of interest on the part of the teacher, but as in other districts, there was want of interest both of parents and pupils. There was a disposition evinced by some of the scholars to omit important parts of a science, this was guarded against by the teacher, but not successfully. A better school-house is much needed.

#### DISTRICT NO. 12.

Summer Term taught by Miss Sarah J. Brownell, of Enfield. This was a good school, and reflected credit on teacher and pupil.

Winter Term commenced by William B. Clough, of Grantham. There was a manifest want of energy, and aptness to teach, (essential qualification) he asked a dismissal which was granted. The remainder of the term was taught by J. E. Follansbee, of Grafton, who did honor to himself, and the pupils in his charge. The school-house in this district is a poor apology for the name it bears.

#### DISTRICT NO. 13.

Summer Term, taught by Miss Lizzie Doter, of Canaan.

Winter Term by Miss Sarah E. J. Currier, of Wilmot. In both schools good order was maintained, and good advancement made. They have a good school-house and pleasantly located.

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#### GENERAL REMARKS.

I think the schools in this town, will compare favorably with those of past years. Good progress had been made in the different branches, though reading as a science is too much neglected, as also is writing; more attention we hope will be paid to these important branches. The elements of language have received attention in some of our schools. Much interest has been manifested by the teachers for their scholars, and as a general thing, the moral deportment and studiousness of the scholars has been commendable.

It will be seen from my report, that of twenty-one teachers employed, Grafton furnished eleven. With some of these it has



been their first term. To such I would say, mark your standard, as a Teacher, high, and aim above it.

There is in many districts a lack of comfortable school-houses. I trust this will soon be remedied, and another winter will find our scholars in warm and well ventilated houses, which will add much to the interest of our schools.

A word to Prudential Committees. Care should be taken to select the best of teachers; regard should be had to moral principles, as well as other qualifications. Your Superintending Committees' report; (as to amount of money expended in each district, length of school, wages of teacher, and number of scholars, &c.,) is made from the registers returned, and if this is neglected it causes a loss to the town. The Prudential Committee is *liable* for all money that he pays to teachers, who have not complied with the following requirements of the law. It shall be the duty of every teacher of a public school to make at the close thereof, a report to the Superintending Committee of the town, of the number of scholars, male and female, that have attended; the branches of learning taught, and the progress made. *And no teachers shall be entitled to pay for their services until this provision has been complied with.* Pamphlet Laws, Chap. 317, Sec. 2, page 197. It is also the duty of the Prudential Committee to notify the Superintending Committee, of the commencement and close of the school, in this they have been very remiss the past year, even allowing teachers to commence school without certificates. This should not be done. A deeper interest is needed on the part of parents; if you should often visit the school-room, it would give encouragement to the teacher, and interest to the scholars. The advancement of scholars is always in proportion to this interest.

S. R. FOSS, *Superintending Committee.*







